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FOLLOWING REPEAT AMMAN 6469 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO ABU DHABI ANKARA ALGIERS CAIRO BEIRUT
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MUSCAT LONDON MANAMA MOGADISCIO PARIS RABAT
ROME SNAA TEHRAN TEL AVIV TRIPOLI TUNIS
USUN NY GENEVA JERUSALEM 31 OCTOBER 1974.
QUOTE:

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TAGS: PFOR, JO, XF

SUBJECT: KING HUSSEIN'S POST-RABAT CONFERENCE SPEECH

1. SUMMARY: ADOPTING CONCILIATORY TONE TO PLO AND TO PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS OF JORDAN, KING HUSSEIN'S OCTOBER 31 AMMAN SPEECH UPON RETURN FROM RABAT AFFIRMED JORDAN'S ACQUIESCENCE TO SUMMIT CONSENSUS SUPPORTING PLO AS SOLFE, LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR PALESTINIANS. FUTURE MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED. KING IMPLIED JORDAN WILL NOW LEAVE TO PLO MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS EXPECT TO SUPPORT GENERAL ARAB POSITION AND PLO EFFORTS CARRY OUT ITS NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. KING PLEDGED TO CONTINUE CURRENT GOJ ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL LINKS WITH WEST BANK AND KEEP "OPEN BRIDGE" POLICY. WHILE IMPLYING SOME DOMESTIC ALTERNATIONS WILL OCCUR, KING STATED THAT PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS DESIRING TO CHOOSE JORDANIAN NATIONALITY CAN DO SO WHILE THOSE CHOOSING PALESTINIAN IDENTITY WILL BE TREATED AS NATIONALS OF OTHER ARABS STATES. GENERAL PUBLIC REACTION IS RELIEF THAT PLO-GO J QUESTION SETTLED AND REASSURANCE WITH KING HUSSEIN'S CONCILIATORY SPEECH.

2. KING HUSSEIN DIRECTLY AFTER RETURN TO JORDAN FROM RABAT SUMMIT DELIVERED SHORT SPEECH OVER JORDANIAN TV AND RADIO EVENING OCTOBER 31. ASSUME DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE FBIS TEXT. SUMMARY OF SPEECH FOLLOWS:

3. KING HUSSEIN BEGAN SPEECH BY EVOKING HISTORICAL CONNECTION BETWEEN JORDAN AND PALESTINE PROBLEM AND OF THE FALL OF PALESTINE TO ISRAEL. "JERUSALEM IS WHERE HUSSEIN THE FIRST IS BURIED NEXT TO THE AQSA MOSQUE, IT IS WHERE ABDALLAH FELL AS A MARTYR, IT IS WHERE A GREAT NUMBER OF MARTYRS--JORDANIANS AND PALESTINIANS IRRIGATED THE SOIL OF PALESTINE WITH THEIR BLOOD."

4. MAJOR POINT ON SPEECH WAS AFFIRMATION OF JORDANIAN ADHERENCE TO RESULTS OF ARAB SUMMIT. KING STATED "I WENT THERE TO MAKE ARAB BROTHERS KNOW WITHOUT DOUBT THAT IF THEY WANTED PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO SHOULDER THEIR FULL NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND AT EVERY LEVEL FOR RECOVERING THEIR LAND, RESTORING THEIR RIGHTS AND BUILDING THEIR AUTONOMOUS ENTITY IN THEIR LAND WHEN IT IS LIBERATED OR PART OF IT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LIBERATED, THEN THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN WOULD DO LIKEWISE AND REMAIN AS EVER IN SUPPORT OF THE DEAR PEOPLE OF PALESTINE, SUPPORTING ITS ENTITY AND ASSISTING ITS REPRESENTATIVES. WE ENTERTAIN NO AMBITION IN A LAND OR A DESIRE TO RULE OR TO DOMINATE ANYONE." KING CONTINUED THAT "WE TOLD THE ARAB BROTHERS THAT IF YOU DECIDE, WE SHALL ACCEPT YOUR DECISION AND RETURN TO MY PEOPLE TO TELL THEM THAT THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED...IF IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE PLO SHOULD EXERCISE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES ON

THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS WITHIN THE GENERAL ARAB COMMITMENT, THEN JORDAN WOULD TAKE ITS NATURAL PLACE WITH ITS BROTHERS AND CARRY OUT ALL THAT IT HAS TO DO WITH REGARD TO BACKING, SUPPORTING AND COOPERATING TO ENABLE THE ORGANIZATION (PLO) TO CARRY OUT THESE RESPONSIBILITIES AND THIS CONSIDERABLE BURDEN." KING STATED " THE VIEW WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AND THE HISTORIC COLLECTIVE DECISION WAS TAKEN TO ENTRUST THE PLO WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS AFOREMENTIONED IN ITS CAPACITY AS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

4. ADDRESSING PALESTINIANS ON CONCILIATORY NOTE WHICH GENERALLY CHARACTERIZED ENTIRE SPEECH, KING STATED THAT DESPITE FACT SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS PLACED RESPONSIBILITIES IN HANDS OF PLO, "NOTHING WHATSOEVER WILL CHANGE TOWARD YOU AND WE WILL NEVER ABANDON YOU."

5. ADMINISTRATIVE LINKS WITH WEST BANK: KING STATED "WE SHALL REMAIN STRONGLY TIED TO YOU" AND PLEDGED TO CONTINUE FINANCIAL AID TO ALL OUR KIN IN OCCUPIED LANDS AND TO CONTINUE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OF THEIR DAILY AFFAIRS UNTIL ARRANGMENTS ARE MADE FOR THEIR NEW STATUS"....OUR BRIDGES WILL REMAIN OPEN. (THIS REFERS TO CONTINUATION FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF CURRENT JORDANIAN ADMINISTRATIVE LINKS WITH WEST BANK, PAYMENT OF SALARIES OF WEST BANK TEACHERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS, AND CONTINUATION OF "OPEN BRIDGES POLICY" WITH WEST BANK.)

6. PALESTINIANS' STATUS IN JORDAN: KING STRONGLY IMPLIED SOME RE-DEFINITION OF CITIZENSHIP PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS IN JORDAN WILL COCURE BY STATEMENT: "IF SOME MATTERS HAVE TO BE ALTERED OR AMENDED TO GIVE THE SUMMIT RESOLUTION ITS MEANING, JORDAN WILL REMAIN THE HOMELAND OF EVERY PALESTINIAN ARAB, IN WHICH HE CHOOSES TO BE CITIZEN WITH ALL THE OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF A CITIZEN WITHOUT AFFECTING HIS ORIGINAL RIGHTS IN PALESTINE. THOSE PALESTINIAN BROTHERS WHO CHOOSE THE PALESTINIAN IDENTITY WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REMAIN DEAR ARAB BROTHERS ENJOYING IN THIS ARAB COUNTRY ALL THAT THEY ENJOY IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES."

7. KING CONCLUDED SPEECH BY STATING CONFIDENCE THAT JORDANIANS WILL ACCEPT DECISIONS OF SUMMIT REPRESENTING "COLLECTIVE ARAB WILL". UNDOUBTEDLY WITH REFERENCE TO SOME HARD-LINE EAST BANK SENTIMENTS VAGUELY THREATENING TO TEACH PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS A LESSON, KING STERNLY WARNED THAT ANYONE ATTEMPTING TO DISTORT SITUATION OR "HURT ANYONE...(WHICH I SEE AS IMPROBABLE) I WOULD CONSIDER AN OFFENSE AGAINST ME PERSONALLY." FINALLY, KING ENJOINED EAST JORDANIANS TO SUPPORT "OUR BROTHERS IN ARAB PALESTINIAN LAND" AND TO UPHOLD "SACRED AIMS" TO WHICH KING HAS DEVOTED HIS LIFE.

8. COMMENT: WE READ SPEECH AS INDICATING KING HUSSEIN RELUCTANTLY BUT DEFINITELY ACQUIESCED TO OVERWHELMING ARAB SUMMIT CONSENSUS

SUPPORTING PLO AS SOLE PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVE. FUTURE JORDANIAN NEGOTIATING ROLE NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN SPEECH AND KING LEFT TINY DOOR OPEN THROUGH EMPHASIS ON STRONG AND INDISSOLUBLE LINKS WITH WEST BANK. NEVERTHELESS, BURDEN OF SPEECH WAS THAT JORDAN HAS TURNED OVER WEST BANK PROBLEM TO PLO AND WILL HENCEFORTH NOT PLAY ACTIVE NEGOTIATING ROLE. WHILE THERE IS SOME CONCERN OVER KING'S SUGGESTION THAT THERE WILL BE SOME COMING CHANGES REGARDING CITIZENSHIP ARRANGEMENTS FOR THOSE PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS WISHING PALESTINIAN NATIONALITY, GENERAL DOMESTIC REACTION TO SPEECH IS RELIEF THAT PLO-JORDANIAN ISSUE FINALLY DECIDED AND REASSURANCE WITH CONCILIATORY TONE OF SPEECH TOWARDS PLO AND PROMISE THAT KING INTENDS TO SEE THAT DOMESTIC PALESTINIAN ISSUE WILL BE TREATED HUMANELY AND WISELY. WE SEE SPEECH IN SUM AS AN ATTEMPT TO AGREE WITH DIGNITY TO OVERWHELMING ARAB VERDICT IN SITUATION WHERE WITHOUT ARAB SUPPORT HE COULD NOT CONTINUE ALONE, AND FINALLY TO ADOPT CLEAR POSTURE OF NOT BEING FIRST OF SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS TO BACK AWAY FROM HIS RESOLUTIONS.
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